(a) whether there is any proposal to merge Nilachal Ispat Nigam Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether similar step is being taken to merge IISCO (a subsidiary of SAIL) with SAIL; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The need for merger has not been felt.

Doping Policy

1997. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved any policy to deal with the dopping in sports after a spate of doping scandals during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Anti-doping Programme is managed by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) through a centrally sponsored scheme of Government of India called "Scheme for Dope Test". The Government has launched the scheme for dope test in the Tenth Five Year Plan with the objectives: (i) to have an International Olympic Committee-accredited Dope Control Centre in India (ii) to maintain quality control system as required by International standard, *i.e.*, ISO 17025 (iii) to educate athletes, coaches and other supporting personnel about the harmful effects of dope (iv) to test and develop the rationale for drug free sports and a national anti-doping policy (v) to conduct in-competition and out-of-competition dope tests on sportspersons (vi) to promote research and training and (vii) to harmonize the dope-

related regulations in tune with the World Anti Doping Code and the rules and regulations framed by the World Anti Doping Agency from time to time.

SAI has a Dope Control Centre (DCC) located at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi. DCC has got ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 17025 certification which are mandatory requirements as per International Olympic Committee (IOC) norms for seeking permanent accreditation for the DCC.

Government has dealt with the problem of doping in sports both at preventive and punitive levels. Elaborate efforts are being made by the Sports Authority of India to educate the players. National Sports Federations have been asked to take action against sportspersons found guilty of doping and compliance reports obtained from them. SAI has also taken disciplinary action against coaches in the light of positive dope result in respect of certain sportspersons coached by them.

(c) Question does not arise.

Bribe to selectors of BCCI

1998. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of alleged bribe paid to the National Selectors of BCCI;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the details of enquiry conducted in the matter and the action proposed against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The issue relates to the internal functioning of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), which is a body registered under the Societies Registration Act and is autonomous in its functioning.